

RESEARCH QUARTERLY

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About TDOC

The Tennessee Department of Correction is committed to ensuring public safety through the incarceration and rehabilitation of convicted felons. The goal of the Department is to provide educational, vocational and treatment programs that will help them become productive citizens upon their re-entry into society.

Currently, there are more than 19,000 inmates assigned to the State's 15 prisons. The Department operates 12 of those facilities. Three are managed privately by Corrections Corporation of America. Two of the State operated prisons are designated for women.

Tennessee's Department of Correction is recognized nationally for its management of prison operations. It was one of the first Departments in the nation to earn national accreditation from the American Correctional Association, and it's a tradition that continues. Only a handful of Departments nationwide are fully accredited.

All inmates entering the Tennessee Department of Correction are processed through one of four reception and classification centers

located at the Tennessee Prison for Women, Brushy Mountain Correctional Complex, Middle Tennessee Reception Center and West Tennessee State Penitentiary.

Once inmates arrive at the center, TDOC staff members collect and evaluate personal information to determine program and security needs. During the classification process, counselors determine a prison assignment and level of supervision needed for the inmate. While incarcerated, inmates are assigned to programs that meet their needs, such as work, education and vocational training.

Population at a Glance

Demographic Highlights

For TDOC inmates (excluding local jails & backup facilities):

❖ The average age is 35.7

❖ Gender:

Male: 18,204 (94%)
Female: 1,169 (6%)

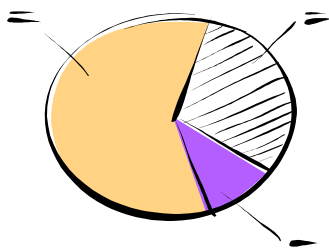
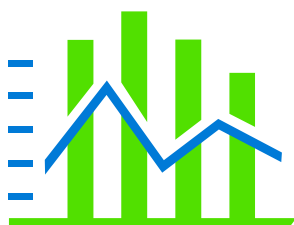
❖ Race:

Caucasian: 10,002 (52%)
African American: 9,064 (47%)
Other: 307 (1%)

❖ Most Common Primary Offenses:

Aggravated Robbery: 2,683 (14%)
Cocaine: 1,943 (10%)
Murder: 1,733 (9%)

All information is current as of July 9, 2004 and was taken from a monthly report of the profile of inmates.





**TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION**

320 Sixth Avenue North
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MISSION

The mission of the Tennessee Department of Correction is to:

- Ensure public safety through incarceration of convicted felons;
- Enhance inmate life skills through selected rehabilitative programming; and
- Make implementation of cost-effective measures a clear priority.

VISION

The TDOC will be an organization where employees are:

Empowered in the decision making process,

Involved in the improvement of individual knowledge and skills, the workplace and society, and

Committed to providing a safe and human environment and to assisting offenders by providing opportunities for positive behavioral changes.

VALUES

The TDOC is committed to continuous improvement by working toward a common goal. All employees are encouraged to be flexible, creative, and responsive in meeting the needs of these they manage.

Fair and ethical treatment of convicted felons, respect for fellow employees and the general public, and openness in both internal and external relationships are essential components in effective management of the Tennessee Department of Correction.

Visit the TDOC Planning & Research's Website:

www.state.tn.us/correction/planning/planning.html

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Pursuant to the State of Tennessee's policy on nondiscrimination, the Department of Correction does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or military service in its policies or in the admission of or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs, services or activities.

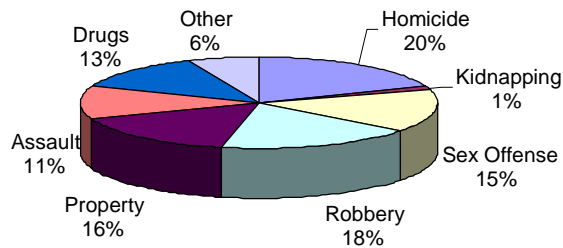
Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action inquiries or complaints should be directed to the Department of Correction, EEO/AA Coordination, Personnel Office, 3rd Floor Rachel Jackson Building, 320 Sixth Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37243-0465, Telephone (615) 741-1000 ext. 1508 or TDD (for person with hearing impairment) (615) 532-4423.

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Overview of Primary Offenses 2001-2004

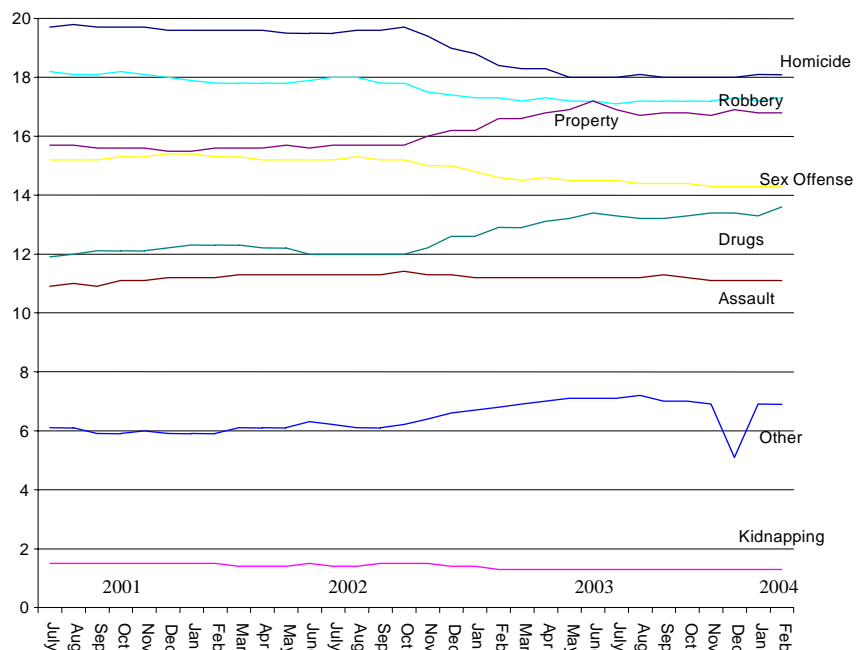
The following data is based upon the Monthly Felon Population Updates (a.k.a. Blue Reports). Monthly data includes July 2001 through February 2004.

Average Percentage

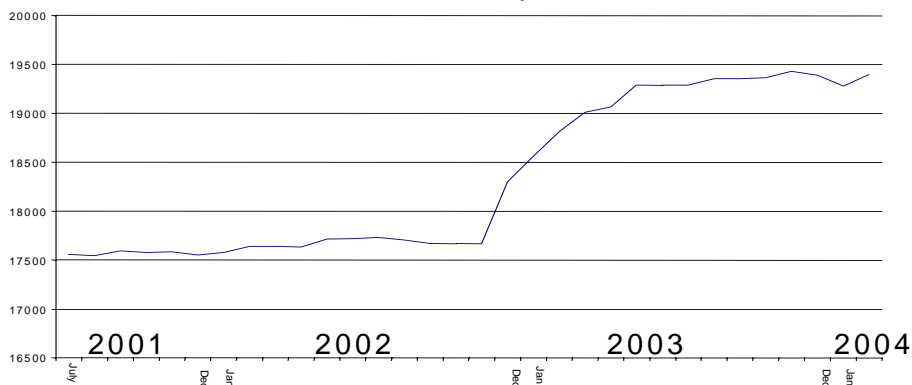


- During the period from July 2001 through February 2004, homicides accounted for 20% of all TDOC primary offenses. Robbery accounted for 18% while property crimes made up 16%. Additionally, sex offenses accounted for 15%, drugs 13%, assault 11%, other 6% and kidnapping 1%.
- Percentages remained relatively stable aside from 2 periods: Between November 2002 to June 2003 and between November 2003 to January 2004.
- From November 2002 through June 2003: Homicides decreased 1.7% (19.7% to 18%); property charges increased 1.5% (15.7% to 17.2%); and drug offenses increased 1.4% (12% to 13.4%). Additionally, the total population increased by 1,617 inmates (from 17,668 to 19,285). This was due to the opening of the Whiteville Correctional Facility.
- From November 2003 through January 2004, other offenses dropped 1.8% from 6.9% to 5.1% only to return to 6.9% of primary offenses. This may be attributed to standard variance.

Percentages



Total Population



National Research Summaries



The following summaries were obtained from the June 2004 edition "Research Review" published by the National Institute of Justice.

Evolving Optimum Classification Policies in the Implementation of Truth-in-Sentencing: A Dynamic Model to Predict Bed-Type Mix, Final Report. Fowler et al. NCJ Number 197353.

The article details the results of preparing a software package that enables administrators to integrate classification with bed type space and demand. This software allows prisons to develop cost efficient and cost effective classification systems. The researchers focused on the dynamics of classification, sentencing structure, and inmate behavior with data from South Carolina. Institutional behavior among truth-in-sentencing inmates was worse than non truth-in-sentencing inmates who committed similar crimes and were admitted during the same period.

Childhood Antecedents of Adolescent and Adult Crime and Violence, Final Report. P. Cohen et al. NCJ Number 196660.

Researchers used an existing random sample of youth to determine childhood antecedents of adolescent and adult crime and violence. Young adults with a history of childhood physical and sexual abuse had an elevated rate of arrest for crimes against a person. Additionally, adolescent aggressive behavior was shown to be a sign of high risk in females.

Data from the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods (PHDCN): A Prospective Study of Serious Delinquency in Adolescent Girls. D. Obeidallah-Davis. NCJ Number 197521.

The report discusses various ways to predict delinquency in adolescent girls in Chicago. There was no relationship between pubertal development scales and aggressive or anti-social behaviors. Depressive symptoms were positively associated with delinquent behavior in girls with a high likelihood of a co-occurrence of violent behavior the longer an adolescent experienced depressive symptoms. Taking into account the contributions of individual, family, and neighborhood best explain the relationship between physical aggression and depressive symptoms.

Evaluating the Implementation and Impact of a Seamless System of Care for Substance Abusing Offenders: The HIDTA Model. F.S. Taxman et al. NCJ Number 197046.

The report offers an evaluation of a model program for treatment of inmate drug addiction. The Seamless System of Care was implemented in 8 jurisdictions. Analyses show that there was 49% decrease in positive drug test results during the treatment period. Additionally, recidivism rates among these offenders dropped.

Trends in Substance Abuse and Treatment Needs Among Inmates. S. Belenko. NCJ Number 197073.

The report examines an analysis of substance use patterns of inmates and the relationship between substance abuse and the growth in the inmate population. A large portion of violent offenders are involved in substance abuse. The majority of property offenses are also involved in drugs and alcohol. Inmate populations have a higher prevalence of drug and alcohol use than the general population. Alcohol involved offenders are older than the general population. Substance using inmates are less likely to have finished high school, more likely to have earned money illegally, more likely to receive public assistance, and less likely to have been raised by both parents than the general population. Intergenerational cycles of criminal behavior are common among drug and alcohol using inmates.